101. c. 30

THE C——NER's,

IN

ANSWER

TO THE

P——SP——CH.

W[illegible] Noble Person whose this Speech is imputed to, spoke it or [illegible] to determine, but whether it be [illegible] Publish'd, is the Subject of our [illegible] and foreknown as I know, [illegible] as certainly [illegible] means, What Pulls it that [illegible] Affection to Her Majesty, and [illegible] Nation's Understanding by? [illegible] Something then he [illegible] his own Account, which, I think, is [illegible] are concern'd for the Establishment of Our

casional Conformity in this Kingdom, when he makes the Occasional Conformist the Fence of the Nation, the Support of the Crown, the *Lending Part*, without which the Exchequer must have been shut up. But of this more by and by.

I have, says he, *no Office*; The more likely to be a Friend to *Occasional Conformity*: for Her Majesty, being *Semper Eadem*, as near as She can, promotes none to Places of Honour and Trust, but such as will Study the Interest of the Church Establish'd, and the Government of these Nations committed to Her Charge. However, being an Extraordinary Subject, he says, *He pays as much Duty to Her Majesty, and wishes as well to Her Government, as those who have half a Dozen Offices under Her.* Lest no Body should commend me, I'll commend my self. Right or Wrong, I'll trumpet forth my own Praises. But, Good Sir, you have the Proverb upon you; and I am sure by this Speech, no man can think the Author to be a True Son of the Church of *England*. Besides Sir, you might have enroll'd your self enough, and not Commended your Fidelity to the Best of Queens, without palpably Reflecting on that Queen's Conduct, to whom you profess your self so dutiful a Subject. *Comparisons*, they say, are *Odious*, and why then should you pretend to compare your self with those, who have always been Her Majesties best Friends, most assiduous and vigilant to preserve her Government, and who enjoy their Offices only, as particular Marks of Royal Favour, for their Integrity? *I pay as much Duty*, &c. If he means by Paying Duty to Her Majesty, that he loves Her as well as those who Enjoy the Benefit of Her Royal Favour, the Scripture is against him: *For, to whom most is given, for that Reason, loves least.* Then, if I may use *Vice versâ*, He to whom least is given, loves least. I wish this be not the Author's Case, and the Cause of his great Indignation.

The Author of this Speech, whoever he was, promises that he will not *enter into the Merits of this Bill*, whether it be *Just* or *Unjust*, and in the same breath condemns it as Illegal by the following Question, viz. *Whether a Man may be Disgrac'd of what he has a legal Right to, without any Forfeiture on his Part.* The very Proposing this Question shews the Author's Inclination to *Occasional Conformity*, and the extraordinary Thoughts he has of the Persons who can so Conform, that they have a legal Right to hold all Places of Trust and Honour, if they can but Pray, that they may safely go to Church in the Morning, as Conventicles in the Afternoon, and that even under the Government of a Queen whose *Heart is Entirely English*, without any Forfeiture of Legal Right.

The Persons affected by this Bill are such as have always been Serviceable to the Government, and are some of the Best Friends to it.

How that can be, I cannot imagine. 'Tis certain our Constitution is Limited Monarchy, and utterly inconsistent with Republican Principles. How then those who hold *Machiavillian, Hobbisian* and other Commonwealth Notions, can be true to Monarchy, I cannot see; unless they act inconsistently with themselves, shew themselves to be double Face'd Christians, be Flesh and Fish, Hounds, and Running with the Hare. *Serviceable* indeed, they may have been formerly, but I much question whether they are so now. The Times change, and their Inclinations may be so too. One day may produce Treason, and the Alderman may open his Purse-strings to day to one Government, and to morrow to another. In former Days when the Sword was in the hand, and Confounded even Heaven and Earth to carry on the Cause

(as they call'd it) What did they not Lend to Cut off the King's Head, and bring Monarchy to a final Period in these Kingdoms? But I never heard of any great Sums they lent when the Royal Family was by the Providence of God restored to these Kingdoms. I don't doubt but if the same Tragedy was to be acted again, some People might be as free of their Purses as they were then: *for what has been may be.*

The main Point which our Orator enforces against the second Reading of this Bill, is, that it was *Ill-timed*, and *could never have come in a more dangerous Juncture.* What he says on that Subject I shall not trouble my self to Answer, but only urge an Argument, to shew that the Bill was Tim'd as well as ever can be expected. Tho' before I proceed, give me Leave to observe, that the Argument he uses in point of Time, seems to be a Reflection upon the whole Body of the Commons, as tho' they acted Hand over Head, and never weighed any Bill before they put it to the Vote. But to come close to my Design: The Church of *England* never had more, nor more Potent Enemies than it now has, and those even in Her own Bosom, meer Weather-Cocks, who will be on any Religion rather than stick out; and yet by bearing an outward Shew of Religion, have insinuated themselves to such vast Estates, and become so Popular, that, like a Basilisk, they cannot be look'd at without Danger. To discover these Persons, and discountenance them, to separate the *Sheep* from the *Goats*, was the Design (I conceive) of this Bill, and without that, it can never be done; and it is very uncertain whether, if the Scene should alter, (which God forbid) and Times be changed, we should ever gain such another Opportunity for the Passing such a Bill.

But to pursue him in his Reasons for the Bill's being ill Tim'd, tho' no Time can be amiss for preventing the Growth of Sin and Hypocrisy, the Reader may be pleas'd to observe what a [illegible] he is, and what an Enemy to the *French*, when he calls [illegible] *whose Designs are laid upon the ruining Monarchy, Destroying* [illegible] *with the greatest Secrecy, and Executed with the greatest Dispatch. That* [illegible] *in his Councils, his Troops have never been prizd, his Designs* [illegible] *his Attempts never Disappointed, by either the Emulation, Envy, or* [illegible] *of his Grand Generals, &c.* He could not have said more in his *Grand Monarch's* Favour, had he been Candidate for any great Office in his Gift, and he has said enough to deserve one in the present Reign, though it is not to be doubted but he has got a Place to stop his Mouth with, as has been Practis'd in a Government which I am perswaded he was *really in Love with*; and what he says in Reference to the Vote of the House of Commons made in favour of His Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, and relating to his *Retrieving the Glory of the English Nation*, is so palpably *Malicious* and *Ill-natur'd* of that *August Assembly*, that we might guess at the Author of the Letter to a Nobleman, even thence, since it is not but of our Remembrance since a certain Man of Quality has been more than once very free with their Proceedings and Debates.

[illegible] been more than a Match for the *French* in *Flanders* under His Conduct, the Taking of *Bon*, *Hay*, and *Limburgh* will testify. But suppose [illegible] not, Must we postpone the Cause of God, whose Honour and Interest is asserted in this Bill, to any Secular or Earthly Concern whatsoever? Should for the Duke [illegible] had Prince *Lewis*, and the rest of [illegible], the *Queen* and [illegible] here, whom he could have blam'd likewise

likewise had they been *Englishmen*, Transacted Affairs for the Grand Alliance as faithfully and vigorously as he did, there could [illegible] manner of Reason to Complain of Taxes being burthensom to the Subject, without any *Prospect of Advantage* to us, in a Reign whose Wars are Manag'd with less Difficulty and Weight upon our Estates and Fortunes than the burthensom Days of another's Peace. We have no Deficiencies of Funds to make Good, no Millions falling short, no Preceding Sessions to account for those, but we have the Queen's Word for't in Her last Gracious Speech, That what has been given by Parliament has answer'd beyond Expectation, yet are we Compar'd to *Atlas*, who is *a strong Ass* compar'd *ing under two Burthens, he bowed his Shoulders to bear, and became a Servant to Tri- bute*, we Groan under Two Burthens now; How many Weights had we to bear, when some body was violent to add to the Number of Our [illegible] for a Standing *Army*, to make us Weary and Heavy Laden as

[illegible] by the late Expedition into the *Mediterranean*, those that advised [illegible] are best able to account for, and if he thinks he be told that Matter [illegible] Duke of [illegible] with very Concerted [illegible] the Malecontents in *Naples*, and [illegible] Dominions belonging to [illegible] upon the Fleet put to Sea to further the [illegible] tion of it is to very partial [illegible] would fix the blame on Sir *Cloudesly* Shovel, and the Orders he receiv'd from the *Admiralty*, that he might introduce himself at the Board, and make one in Consults of Affairs, that he is an utter Stranger to, for he knows such have been [illegible] of the *Admiralty* not long since.

[illegible] Her Majesty's *Ally*, [illegible] the Distribution of He[illegible] the North Coast [illegible] Majesty has been graciously pleas'd to Declare [illegible] his such as shall highly [illegible]

FINIS.